

Congressman Steve King today introduced a resolution in the House of Representatives declaring "a definable victory" in Iraq. The resolution outlines the path American military personnel have followed and calls upon President Obama to maintain this hard-won achievement as President.

"Thanks to his adoption of the surge strategy, and on balance by every objective measure, President Bush left office having secured a definable victory in Iraq," King said.

"Congress defined eighteen benchmarks for success, seventeen of which have been substantially or completely met since the surge strategy was adopted."

King's resolution is intended to celebrate the accomplishments of the men and women who have served in Iraq.

"We express profound gratitude to our American service personnel who have sacrificed life and limb in their noble effort to give the Iraqis a chance at freedom. Success in Iraq is fragile but substantially achieved, even by the standards set by the Pelosi Congress. Iraq has been transformed from a country run by a dictatorial, terrorist regime that tortured its own people, invaded its neighbors and promoted terror abroad into a nation of free, self-governing people who soon will be able to defend themselves," King said.

The resolution is also a validation of the surge strategy pursued by President George W. Bush.

"On January 10, 2007, rather than accept that victory in Iraq was no longer possible, President Bush courageously ordered the adoption of the surge strategy," King said. "His decision will no doubt be recognized by history as the turning point in this conflict. Since the surge strategy was adopted, we have seen a dramatic decrease in civilian deaths, ethno-sectarian deaths, militia activity and terrorist activity, and we've seen Iraqis and the Iraqi government begin the process of national reconciliation."

"However, this victory may be squandered if President Obama withdraws American forces too hastily. History will judge both President Bush and President Obama by the decisions they make on Iraq. The responsibility to maintain a definable victory in Iraq is now President Obama's."